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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/955,845	09/17/2001	Shih-Zheng Kuo	JCLA7061	1233

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EXAMINER

WORKU, NEGUSSIE

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2626

DATE MAILED: 03/18/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/955,845

Applicant(s)

KUO, SHIH-ZHENG

Examiner

Negussie Worku

Art Unit

2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 September 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2 and 7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-6, 8 and 9 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 January 0917 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 2 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Takahashi et al. (USP 5,583,662).

With respect to claim 1, Yakahashi et al. discloses method of enhancing scan resolution, see (col.10, lines 60-68) suitable for use in a scanner with an optical sensor, (scanner 101 of fig 1) wherein a range that a detecting cell of the optical sensor can detect includes a plurality of original pixels with a predetermined number, and a result of one detection by the detecting cell is called a scanned pixel, (image red by image sensor 101 of fig 1, if appears blurred to obviate the problem the IPU 103 of fig 3, perform pixel by pixel basis, see col.8, lines 40-45) the method comprising: scanning a smooth image region, (scanner 101 of fig 1 and 2, reads a document) wherein the smooth image region includes at least the original pixels with the predetermined number and has a uniform brightness, see (col.10, lines 6-68) to obtain a smooth image data;

and processing scanned images obtained by scanning a document according to the smooth image data, see (col.7, lines 45-50).

With respect to claim 2, Takahashi et al. discloses the method (as shown in fig 1), wherein the smooth image data is obtained prior to scanning the document, (scanning a document on the horizontal and main scan direction, see col.6, lines 30-35).

With respect to claim 7, Takahashi et al. discloses the method (as shown in fig 1-5), wherein the smooth image data is obtained after scanning the document, (the magnification or a processing which changes the amplification of data on the basis of the quantity of light for illumination and data level, is performed after the document is scanned by scanner 101 of fig 1 or 2, at least in the main scan direction after the, see col.8, lines 10-14).

Claims objected to having Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 3-6, 8 and 9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

With respect to claims 3-6, the prior art does not teach or disclose the method, wherein processing the scanned images obtained by scanning the document further comprises: obtaining a calculated smooth brightness of the original pixels corresponding to scanned pixels of the smooth image data; and using a calculated brightness

Art Unit: 2626

corresponding to the original pixels with the predetermined minus one in the smooth image region as a standard to calculate the calculated brightness corresponding to original pixels of the document.

With respect to claim 8 and 9 the prior art does not teach or disclose the method, wherein obtaining the scanned pixel while scanning the document comprises, obtaining a calculated smooth brightness of the corresponding original pixels from the scanned pixels of the smooth image data; and using a corresponding calculated brightness of the original pixel with the predetermined number minus one in the smooth image region as a standard to calculate a calculated brightness corresponding to the original pixels of the document.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Negussie Worku whose telephone number is 305-5441. The examiner can normally be reached on 7am-4pm.

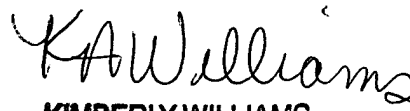
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly Williams can be reached on 703-305-4863. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

Art Unit: 2626

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Negussie Worku
02/28/05


KIMBERLY WILLIAMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER